

Sample ASSESSMENT QUESTION(S) in this grade:

Math

Collect 5 lids of different sizes from your kitchen. Ask your child to put them in order from smallest to biggest.

Science

Select some items in your kitchen. Ask your child to sort the items (examples: sweet vs. sour, hot vs. cold, hard vs. soft, liquid vs. solid.)

Note: *Students should be able to explain their thinking verbally.*

You and your child may want to try these problems together. If you are interested in additional problems or the answers, please see the <http://mc2.nmsu.edu> website!

What are standards?

Standards are expectations for students and teachers. They are statements that tell what your child should know and be able to do.

Who should I contact to find out more about standards and our schools?

Talk to your child's teacher or principal to learn more about standards based learning. You can also contact the subject area specialists at the New Mexico Public Education Department, Santa Fe, NM.

The content and design of this brochure was created by New Mexico educators, including staff from the New Mexico Public Education Department and the Southwest Educational Development Laboratory (SEDL) during the 2004-2005 school year.



What should
**Kindergarten
mathematics
and science**
look like
in your school?



Based on New Mexico
Standards and Benchmarks

What should I see happening in my child's classroom?

Every day, students should be:

- relating math and science to their everyday lives
- asking and answering questions about their surroundings
- solving math and science problems in different ways
- working with other students to solve problems
- talking about their own ideas in math and science
- DOING activities! ... using tools and objects to learn and to show what they know
- using diagrams, graphs, and numbers to show relationships in math and science
- learning that everyone can do math and science

This is called Standards Based Instruction!



Big ideas in Kindergarten SCIENCE

Scientific Thinking

- Record and communicate observations using pictures, numbers, and symbols
- Ask and answer questions about their surroundings
- Describe properties of objects

Physical Science

- Observe that objects are made of different materials with different properties
- Observe different forms of energy and how they are used
- Explore the different ways things move

Life Science

- Observe and describe how living things are alike and different
- Identify main parts of plants and animals, including the human body
- Use senses to observe and describe surroundings

Earth and Space Science

- Observe that some objects in the sky are brighter than others and that they move
- Observe that the sun warms the Earth

Science and Society

- Describe how science helps provide the products we use every day
- Understand that germs exist and may cause illness

Big ideas in Kindergarten MATHEMATICS

Number and Operations:

- Count, read, write, compare, order and estimate using numbers up to 20
- Use objects to solve simple addition and subtraction story problems

Algebra:

- Sort, classify and order objects by size, number, or other attributes

Geometry:

- Describe, identify, model and draw common shapes
- Compare attributes of common shapes (number of corners, number of sides)
- Describe how to get from one location to another

Measurement:

- Use mathematical vocabulary (shorter, longer, taller, full, empty, heavy, light, before, after, morning, afternoon)
- Practice measuring with everyday objects
- Tell time to the hour

Data Analysis and Probability:

- Describe, collect and pose questions about things in their world
- Make simple predictions